President’s Notes:

It’s a Balancing Act

Diversity is our middle name, requiring that we think out of the box

Is it spring, winter, summer, or a revolving door? If it is a revolving door, you might live in Central New York. Central New York, where the residents gladly drive to work with three feet of snow piled on top of their cars and a six-inch peep window scraped off the windshield, while the rest of the nation is declaring a state of disaster, and also where you might use the heat and the A/C in the same day.

Central New York is also full of diversity, especially in the veterinary profession. This Regional contains a wide variety of members and member practices, from rural to urban, small animal to large animal, and everywhere in between. Our members serve a demographic that reaches both ends of the spectrum for income, lifestyle, needs, and desires.

Veterinarians are constantly performing a delicate balancing act between serving the patient and serving the client, and while they are often the same thing, every single one of us has encountered situations where we feel the divide between what the client wants us to do and what the patient needs done. We are doctors, dentists, pediatricians, geriatricians, ophthalmologists, infectious disease experts, nutritionists, surgeons, criticalists, and do it all before our morning cup of coffee. After all, “real” doctors work on more than one species. :-)

I encourage every member to reach out to this vast network of colleagues in these eight counties that make up CNYVMA and strive to think out of the box, provide the best care for their patients, and seek out relationships with one another to expand knowledge and understanding.

Networking with other veterinarians may open up chances to find that spark and keep it alive, whether it might be learning a new skill, pursuing new treatment options for patients, serving the community, or developing a broader range of services for our clients. Any member may seek out resources from this Board, and the Board members will make efforts to provide those resources, or find a contact that can, and put folks in touch with one another.

Networking is a great tool to help ourselves and each other. Don’t hesitate to call or email any Board member, see page 2. If we cannot provide the information you seek, then we can contact someone who can.

Eve Ryan, DVM

Survey Responses

Meeting our membership’s needs

About a month ago, there was a Survey Monkey sent around to the CNYVMA membership via email. The questions asked the members about their preferences for CE topics, Social Events, and Newsletter Content, as well as asked for additional comments and suggestions.

One very important suggestion was that the Board should spend time planning for meeting the needs of the people in the Association, and know who those people are, and what they want. Exactly. That is the focus of the survey, and the main topic of conversation at every single Board meeting: How do we meet the needs of the membership.

It is challenging to guess what those needs are, without input from the members. But we try. Do not hesitate to contact members of your Board with input and specific suggestions.

Regarding this newsletter, several comments were made regarding the new format being difficult to read. Agreed. We were approached by HQ at NYSVMS with an offer to take over the email distribution because they have the database lists that are most current for addresses. The format that they use is rather hard to open and work with, so there will be a request to return to sending it as a regular .pdf file, or we will resume sending it around ourselves rather than through NYS HQ. It will still be available in the archives on the main website.

Regarding the Social Events, tradition has kept us in the same events for years, SURVEY continued on page 3
2016
CNYVMA Officers

President  Eve Ryan, DVM
Beaver Lake Animal Hospital, 1528 West Genesee Road, Baldwinsville, NY 13027
phone: (315) 635-6241 fax: (315) 635-8879
EFRvet@verizon.net

President-Elect  Please step forward if you’re interested.

Secretary  Position vacant

Treasurer  Heather Lago, DVM
Quarryside Animal Hospital, 4915 Jamesville Rd., Jamesville, NY 13078
phone (315) 469-3959
msmyself@aol.com

Executive Board Representative  Victoria Bentley, DVM
Clear Lakes Animal Wellness, 5500 Bartel Rd., Brewerton, NY 13029
phone (315) 676-2860
drvickidvm@hotmail.com

CNYVMA Committee Chairs

Executive Board Rep Alternate: Lydia Aris, VMD  aris.shvh@gmail.com

Website: John Sonne, VMD, pugdoc@mac.com

Newsletter: Eve Ryan, DVM, efrvet@verizon.net

CE Co-chairs: Sandy Young, DVM, mammothdoc@juno.com
and Polly Fleckenstein, DVM, pflecky@aol.com

Ethics: Frank Capella, DVM, f.capella@verizon.net

Disaster Planning: Polly Fleckenstein, DVM, pflecky@aol.com

Social Chair: Gretchen Schlientz, DVM, gschlientz@hotmail.com

For all national, international, corporate, and regional CE providers who have obtained clearance from NYSED, see:
www.op.nysed.gov/prof/vetmed/vetceproviders.htm
This website is continually updated.

Note that CNYVMA (CNYACE) is an approved affiliate of NYSVMS,
as is the fall NYS-VC at Cornell University.
and as attendance declined year by year, an effort was made to find out what members are interested in. Several options were suggested on the survey as well as a write-in option. The front runners were a Wine Tour, and a Lake Brunch Cruise. One of these events may be offered in lieu of one of our usual events this year.

Comments were made regarding the food at the CE meetings and the content of the Newsletter. These will be discussed by the Board, and if possible, changes may be made. More help would be appreciated on the CE planning committee, as the current committee has been working at it for several years now.

The newsletter cannot contain interesting content if no one ever submits anything. Without local member "news" to print, or informative topic material, what remains is conveying the relevant "news" from AVMA and State that affects CNY Vets. Anyone with a piece to share may submit it for content at any time.

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### CNYACE 2016 LECTURE SERIES

**Register now!**

Any veterinarians or veterinary technicians not already registered for CNYACE lectures may contact Dr Sandy Young at mammothdoc@juno.com to get more info or to get on the mailing list for lectures. As usual, the lectures are held at the Doubletree Hotel in Carrier Circle, and dinner is served for the evening lectures. Each lecture provides three hours of NYS-approved CE credit for DVM/VMD and LVT licenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
<th>Time and Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curtis Dowey, DVM, MS, DACVSL, DACVSM (neuro) Cornell University</td>
<td>Topics in Neurology</td>
<td>Tuesday, May 3 6:30-9:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice Jernin, R.Ph., DVM, DACVD Veterinary Allergy &amp; Dermatology, Inc.</td>
<td>Atopy in Dogs and Cats: Diagnosis and Treatments, Old and New</td>
<td>Tuesday, May 24 6:30-9:30 PM</td>
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<td><strong>TBA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Waddell, DVM, DACVECC University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Topics in Emergency and Critical Care</td>
<td>Thursday, September 29 6:30-9:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marty Becker, DVM</td>
<td>Fear-Free Practice And Exam Room Secrets Revealed</td>
<td>Thursday, October 20 6:30-9:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Squires, BA Compassion Fatigue Specialist Rekindle LLC</td>
<td>The Cost of Caring: How to Defeat Compassion Fatigue</td>
<td>Thursday, November 3 2:00-6:00 PM</td>
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* = dinner meeting (buffet dinner served from 6-7 pm; lecture begins at 6:30 pm)

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### Executive Board Notes: NYSVMS at Work

**First up: compounding**

This year is starting off with a bang. Our legislative reception March 15 was a great success. We had several of the legislative leaders in attendance.

Our priority for this year regards compounding. We as a society have worked with the Pharmacy Board and our lobbyists to draft proposed legislation to allow compounding for office use. The proposed wording is quite broad and would allow us to maintain these medications in our stock and dispense them as needed. This bill is about to be introduced and we look forward to it passing both houses and being signed into law this year. The legislators in attendance were very supportive of our priority and several of them contacted our lobbyists to see what they could do to help us. Keep your eyes out for more information on this and be ready to contact your legislators as this moves forward. The more voices that contact them the easier it is to make our goals a reality. We are still opposing declaw legislation although that doesn’t seem to be as active a bill this year. We have had discussions with the sponsors of the devocalization (bark softening) bill as well. The sponsors have concerns about this being done in puppies for sale to increase their prices, and the concern that this is being performed by laypersons in order to have them ready for pets stores. As a result we have worked to propose some amendments to the bill in order to allow for professional discretion in cases where owners have exhausted behavioral modification and training.

We have also agreed to support a bill proposing that domestic violence shelters agree to allow pets to come to the shelter. This may help additional victims to leave and get the help they need. We have brought to the attention of our lobby group and they have had discussion with the leaders in the legislature regarding our concerns with the State Education Department(SED). These conversations specifically pertain to naming of practices with specific species (SED requires board certification), and the consultation interpretation which SED believes we should not be allowed to consult via phone or internet with someone not licensed in New York. Our legislators seem interested in assisting us with our concerns in this area.

Veterinary Feed Directives are now a part of our life. NYS Ag & Markets along with NYSVMS have been holding a number of meetings across the state to get information out to practitioners regarding the new regulations. These have been well attended so far. If you are a veterinarian who works with producers this is going to be important information for you. If you have not heard of Veterinary Feed Directives and attended a meeting but want to please contact me and I will get you in touch with the right people to make that happen.

Financially the NYSVMS is quite healthy. Our new treasurer has taken a long term view on our finances. He is looking to develop a 1, 5 and 10 year strategic plan for the NYSVMS to ensure we stay healthy and are able to provide great service to our members. He wants to set benchmarks and ensure our investments are doing well for us and not losing money.

National Accreditation of new veterinary schools remains on our radar. At the moment there is little federal action going on.
It is a concern for us as Michael Dix, an economist, predicts for each new school that is approved the average salary for veterinarians will decrease by $500. With the vanguard of proposals for new schools this is going to have a huge impact on our profession. Student debt is another important issue and combining increasing debt with decreasing salaries our position is not strong. We need to continue to keep pressure nationally and look for new ways to address these concerns.

This is an election year (as if we could have failed to notice). Our Veterinary Political Education (PEC) Committee is hard at work looking our ability to support candidates that will align with us on our important issues. Please consider a donation to the PEC to help us all achieve our goals for having a healthy profession.

Our legal restructuring of the NYSVMS into an entity compliant with current IRS and state regulations remains a priority. This year a major priority is bringing all the regionals into compliance as well. This will protect us from tax liability and help us to obtain appropriate insurances as needed. Several of the regionals have been able to accomplish this on their own as they are larger and have more resources. Regions like ours in Central New York have much to accomplish in this area and NYSVMS will be assisting us with this as we continue to strive to provide you with more in terms of services and value. There is a task force of some very dedicated board members working quite hard to get this all set up to implement. Our amazing legal team has hit the ground running and is currently working through a backlog of 5 years of member questions and concerns. Keep an eye on the knowledge center on the NYSVMS website as they are adding information there at a great pace.

It is that time of year to call for nominations for awards. Regional officers have gotten the information on that. If you can think of someone who deserves an award please contact me regarding this and I can help facilitate the nomination. It really is important for us to remember to recognize those veterinarians who make this profession shine.

As always, if you have any issues, concerns or other items to address feel free to contact me at drvickidvm@hotmail.com. I am here to help this profession to continue to be the best.

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The “Eyes” Have It

Sudden blindness in dogs and cats

by Kent M. Burgesser, PhD, DVM, MS, DACVO,
Veterinary Specialists of Rochester

Sudden loss of vision is a frightening problem for the pet and pet owner. Timely evaluation is essential to determine the underlying cause of vision loss if there is any hope of restoring vision. This article will briefly discuss some of the presenting clinical signs and common causes of acute blindness in dogs and cats.

The clinical signs that will be present can be quite variable depending on if one or both eyes are affected. If vision has been lost in only one eye the owner may not appreciate any behavior changes that will prompt veterinary attention. Loss of vision in both eyes usually has obvious behavior changes such as bumping into walls or furniture, but can also be subtle. Lethargy, decreased appetite, reluctance to go up and down stairs or jump onto furniture can also be an indication of decreased or lack of vision.

Clinical findings on the ophthalmic examination can include widely dilated pupils with poor or absent pupillary light reflexes. However, pupil size and PLR’s may be normal, and this information is very useful in determining lesion location and formulating a list of differential diagnoses. The sclera may be red with certain causes of acute blindness (glaucoma, uveitis), or may be normal. The menace response is absent, but remember there are other causes of an absent menace response (facial nerve paresis), and other tests of vision such as a maze test, visual tracking, and visual placing will also be abnormal.

Following initial assessment of vision, a complete ophthalmic examination should be performed. Evaluate the ocular media (cornea, anterior chamber, lens) for clarity.

Rapidly developing cataracts, such as in diabetics, can result in acute vision loss. Other causes of sudden blindness can include retinal detachment, acute glaucoma (don’t forget to measure IOP’s), optic neuritis, and Sudden Acquired Retinal Degeneration syndrome. Some of these etiologies will be apparent on a fundic examination, while others, such as SARD and retrobulbar optic neuritis, will have a normal ophthalmic examination. Additional diagnostics, such as an electroretinogram, may be indicated to determine the cause of vision loss.

There are also some less common causes of acute vision loss. These can include drug toxicity such as Baytril-associated retinotoxicity in cats, and ivermectin-induced optic neuropathy. Central blindness, due to a lesion posterior to the optic chiasm, will have a normal ophthalmic examination. Other neurological deficits will often be present to aid in lesion localization. Although not a true cause of acute blindness, Progressive Retinal Atrophy can sometimes be mistaken for acute vision loss when a patient that has compensated well to a slowly progressive blindness is placed in unfamiliar surroundings.

Please feel free to contact me for advice or consultation in any case of acute blindness or ophthalmic disease.

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Where is “Sound Bites”? Look for a return of Dr. Eric Davis’s dental article in our next issue. We will be alternating among various local specialists to provide topic pieces every issue.
Veterinarians Wanted

Full-time, newly graduated or experienced veterinarian needed for a busy, well established, five-doctor, feline/canine small animal hospital in Utica, New York. Our well-equipped hospital, which includes Sound Smart DR digital x-ray, Midmark/Progeny digital dental x-ray, Midmark Vet Pro 1000 dental delivery system, Companion Therapy Laser and more, delivers full-service care by providing preventative, diagnostic, and surgical/dental services. Our medical team is supported by a long-term staff, including 6 LVts, dedicated to providing exceptional veterinarian support and compassionate client service. Our ideal candidate will interact as a natural team player with an excellent attitude, driven work ethic, enthusiasm for learning, and passion for clients and patients. We offer an exceptional compensation package, including medical/dental/vision insurance, paid licensing, including DEA, paid AVMA, PLT, VIN, and a $1,500 annual CE allowance with 5 days, 401-k, and more. Email your resume to Dr. Noelle Perry, Medical Director at noelle.perry@burrstoneanimalhospital.com

We are a progressive 6-doctor AAHA/NYS accredited Small Animal and Avian/Exotic/wildlife practice in Liverpool, NY (suburb of Syracuse). Only a few hours from Toronto, Montreal, NYC, Boston, Vermont and the beautiful Adirondack Mountains- Central NY is a great place to live, work and play. We offer CE, Benefits(medical/dental/vision), Retirement(401K), Employee Pet Insurance and Salary based on production. We are well-equipped with in-house Idexx Vetlab system, Ultrasound, Surgivet/Cardell Monitor systems, Doppler, Tonopen, Endoscopy, Acupuncture and full Midmark dental suite with progeny dental imaging. Idexx Cornerstone software with Idexx Digital DR Imaging(idexx telemedicine) currently transitioning to paper-lite medical records. 8 highly skilled and fully utilized LVts and several assistants support our veterinarians to provide excellence in medicine, dentistry and surgery. Though we offer a wide range of available services in diagnostics, surgery and internal medicine, we have the opportunity to refer to some of the finest board-certified surgeons, internists, cardiologist and ophthalmologists in the region. Our staff of 26 is thoroughly dedicated to providing all of our patients with the best possible care, while supporting the human-animal bond with client education and communication. If you think you would like to become a member of our team (full-time or part-time), contact me today. Dr. Dave Clegg, Liverpool Animal Health Center, 8205 Chenango Rd., New Hartford, NY 13413, phone 315-622-2036, cleggdvm@lahcllp.com Visit us on the web at www.liverpoolvet.com

Veterinarian, Feline-Only, Part-time Opening in Spring 2015, wonderful place to work, no emergencies, rural setting. Staff consists of young parents raising children and working within a flexible schedule in the Mohawk Valley, email Dr Tom Rothwell: tprothwell@roadrunner.com website: http://www.parishillcathospital.com.

FT associate veterinarian needed for well established four veterinarian small animal/exotic/avian practice. We emphasize preventative healthcare, quality medicine and surgery, and client education. AAHA accredited facility with well trained support staff. Competitive salary and benefits. No after hours or emergency coverage. Excellent opportunity for experienced veterinarian or new graduate.

Contact Mattydale Animal Hospital, 2703 Brewerton Road, Mattydale, NY 13211, phone 315-455-5915, fax 315-455-9056.

FT Associates needed for growing emergency and critical care facility in Baldwinsville, NY to provide quality emergency and critical care medicine for dogs, cats, pocket pets, birds and exotic. In-house laboratory, Sevoflurane, isolation ward, central oxygen and scavange, Tonopen, SCA 2000, Panoptic scope, I-Stat, full surgery suite. Our well-trained technical staff is dedicated to providing quality and compassionate emergency medicine and critical care. Our patients are treated as if they’re our own. If you feel that you would be a good fit with our “family,” please send or fax cover letter and resume to Sue at Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Center, fax: 636-3647, 2115 Downer Street Rd, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 or e-mail at Sue@veccc.com.

Seeking FT DVM for friendly SA practice emphasizing preventative health care, quality medicine and client education. Excellent salary, benefits and CE. Dr. John Beisler, Mexico Veterinary Hospital, 101 Genesee Street, Oneida, NY 13421. Call (315) 363-1992, fax (315) 363-7344 or e-mail to stephen.abel@vcamail.com.

Mexican Veterinary Hospital is a small animal hospital in upscale New York looking to hire a FT/PT, newly graduated or experienced Licensed Veterinarian. We are an AAHA hospital that deals with routine preventative care, dental treatments with high speed equipment, extensive surgery and laser treatment. Please mail your resume to: Mexico Veterinary Hospital, 48 Cornell W Road, Mexico, NY 13114, OR email to: mexicovethospital@gmail.com OR fax to: 315-963-1400. Visit our website at: http://www.mexicoveterinaryhospital.com.

Relief Veterinary

Skilled and experienced 1999 Cornell graduate available for relief work in upstate New York. Offering quality, up to date medical care for your patients, and working well with staff to create a productive and positive environment. Careful record keeping, legible handwriting, and familiarity with a number of electronic medical record systems. For more information, please call Dr. Sara W. Robinson at 607-279-4889, 607-273-1902, or email sarajimd@aol.com.

Exp. SA Medicine and Surgery Relief Vet. Available for CNY. Will travel for multi-day commitment. Dr. Melissa Markakis 585-402-4323. mmmandz33@aol.com

Technical Wanted

Licensed vet tech needed for small animal practice in Baldwinsville, NY. Duties include client communications, patient care, laboratory sample preparation, radiology, dental, and cytology work. Benefits include health insurance and profit sharing plan (401K). Experience helpful, but new LVT graduates will be considered. Interested parties inquire at Beaver Lake Animal Hospital, Beth Dhayer, Practice Manager, blakeami@twcnyr.tr.com (315) 635-6241.

LVT Wanted, Experienced for Feline-Only practice, wonderful place to work, no emergencies, rural setting. Staff consists of young parents raising children and working within a flexible schedule in the Mohawk Valley, email Dr Tom Rothwell: tprothwell@roadrunner.com website: http://www.parishillcathospital.com.

Immediate Opening - FT/PT LVT for busy, progressive 6-doctor, well-equipped AAHA/NYS small animal practice (K-9, feline, avian, exotic, wildlife) located near Syracuse, NY. Strong technical skills, enthusiasm, attention to detail and excellent interpersonal skills a must. Avian/exotic experience helpful but not required. Technical support team is utilized to its full potential. Competitive pay/benefits - medical, dental, disability insurance, matching retirement plan, employee pet insurance, continuing education and more. Visit our website to learn more. www.lahcllp.com Send resume to Dulcy Rambia (practice manager, dulcyrambia@lakelandmail.com) or Holly Young (technician supervisor managers@lahcllp.com), Liverpool Animal Health Clinic, 8205 Oswego Road, Liverpool, NY 13090 fax 315-622-0724.

Five DVM small animal hospital located in Central New York. General technician duties including emergency on-call rotation. Benefits include: employer paid health and life insurance (employee only), paid vacation and personal days, paid holidays, paid NYSAVT dues, 401K plan after 1 year and uniform allowance. Please e-mail or mail resume to Burrstone Animal Hospital, PC 2448 Chenango Rd., New Hartford, NY 13413 donnatorturo@burrstoneanimalhospital.com.

FT LVT for busy progressive SA practice located in Central NY. Experience preferred but will consider new grad. No emergency coverage, rotating weekends. We utilize our techs to their fullest potential! Contact Dr. Ziegler-Alexander at mezdvm@aol.com.